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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/641,773

08/18/2000

Kenneth R. Goguen

07072-938001

7321

7590

10/21/2003

Hale And Dorr LLP
60 State Street
Boston, MA 02109

EXAMINER

TSAL, CAROL S W

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2857

DATE MAILED: 10/21/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/641,773

Applicant(s)

GOGUEN ET AL.

Examiner

Carol S Tsai

Art Unit

2857

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 September 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 23 September 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☒ The proposed drawing correction filed on 23 September 2002 is: a) ☒ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 12.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U. S. Patent No. 5,953,686 to Hale et al. in view of U. S. Patent No. 6,606,629 to DeKoning et al.

With respect to claims 1-3, Hale et al. disclose a method for measuring system performance in a mass storage system, the storage system having a plurality of disk drive storage elements controlled by a disk drive controller, the controller receiving commands and data from and returning at least data to a plurality of host computers, the method comprising executing at least one host computer a test request by sending commands to the mass storage system (see Abstract, lines 13-17; col. 1, lines 65 to col. 2, line 3; col. 3, lines 37-59; col. 5, lines 26-44; and col. 6, lines 55-57), accumulating, at least the executing host computer, data regarding performance of the mass storage system, in response to the requests sent by the host computer (see Abstract, lines 17-23; col. 2, lines 3-8; col. 3, line 60 to col. 4, line 43; and col. 6, lines 61-63).

Hale et al. do not disclose processing the accumulated data, regarding the performance of the mass storage system in response to the host generated commands, the processing comprising validating and correcting, as required, the accumulated data.

DeKoning et al. teach processing the accumulated data, regarding the performance of the mass storage system in response to the host generated commands, the processing comprising validating and correcting, as required, the accumulated data (see Figs. 4, 5, and 10; Abstract, lines 13-19; col. 3, line 21 to col. 4, line 33; col. 6, lines 51-55; col. 20, line 29 to col. 21, line 33; and col. 23, line 17 to col. 25, line 20).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Hale et al.'s method to include processing the accumulated data, regarding the performance of the mass storage system in response to the host generated commands, the processing comprising validating and correcting, as required, the accumulated data, as taught by DeKoning et al., in order to detect and correct silent errors arising from inadvertent data path and drive data corruption (see DeKoning et al. Abstract, lines 9-11).

4. Claims 4 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hale et al. in view of DeKoning et al. as applied to claims 1 and 2 above, and further in view of U. S. Patent No. 4,633,471 to Perera et al.

As noted above, with respect to claims 4 and 5, Hale et al. in combination with DeKoning et al. teach all the features of the claimed invention, but do not disclose flagging any inconsistencies based upon expected results, and storing the flagged data in a system database.

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Perera et al. teach flagging any inconsistencies based upon expected results, and storing the flagged data in a system database (see col. 13, lines 15-34; col. 14, lines 32-61; and col. 18, line 46 to col. 19, line 44).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Hale et al. in combination with DeKoning et al.'s method to include flagging any inconsistencies based upon expected results, and storing the flagged data in a system database, as taught by Perera et al., in order that erroneous data can be retrieved for comparison to provide the necessary data for carrying out steps of the error correcting process.

Response to Arguments

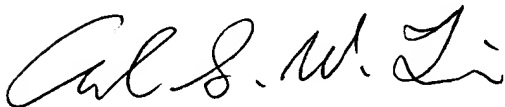
5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-5 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Contact Information

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Carol S. Tsai whose telephone number is (703) 305-0851. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Marc S. Hoff can be reached on (703) 308-1677. The fax number for TC 2800 is (703) 308-7382. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the TC 2800 receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1782.

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In order to reduce pendency and avoid potential delays, Group 2800 is encouraging FAXing of responses to Office actions directly into the Group at (703) 308-7382. This practice may be used for filing papers not requiring a fee. It may also be used for filing papers which require a fee by applicants who authorize charges to a PTO deposit account. Please identify the examiner and art unit at the top of your cover sheet. Papers submitted via FAX into Group 2800 will be promptly forwarded to the examiner.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Carol S. W. Tsai".

Carol S. W. Tsai
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2857

10/04/03